



## PRESS RELEASE

October 5, 2020

### SCHOOL COUNCIL GENERAL ELECTION 2020 UNOFFICIAL ELECTIONS RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The elections for members of five of the 26 school council where polls were required were held between 3PM and 8PM on Monday, October 5. Polls were held for five school councils as noted below where the number of candidates exceed the number of positions.

The official results will follow the addition of the vote to validate results. Returning officers will conduct the addition of the vote on Tuesday, October 6, 2020.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA	NUMBER OF VOTERS
Del Van Gorder School – Faro	70
J.V. Clark School - Mayo	84
Selkirk Elementary School - Whitehorse	76
Christ the King Elementary School - Whitehorse	60
Holy Family Elementary School - Whitehorse	33

The remaining 21 school councils were elected by acclamation after the close of nominations on September 24, 2020 and following subsequent candidate withdrawals.

School council elections are administered by Elections Yukon under the authority of the *Education Act*. The election is normally held in May with the term of council members of two years. The previous school council general election was held on May 7, 2018.

The members of the new council, normally elected in May, take over the day before school start in August. This allows a period for familiarization and turnover over the summer.

Due to COVID-19 due diligence measures, this election was postponed from early May by nearly five months. As the school council term begins in August, the term will only be shorter by 5-7 weeks. The next school council general election, subject to the approval of the Minister of Education, is tentatively scheduled for May 2022.

A summary of some of the key results are noted below:

- In total, 104 positions of the 127 available have been filled. This represents 82% of the positions. In 2018, 86 of/127 positions were filled (68%)
- There was a total of 124 candidates. For the 23 positions open for the five contested elections, there were 36 candidates. In 2018, there was a total of 111 candidates. For the 28 positions open for the six contested elections, there were 38 candidates.

- 14 of the 26 school councils have filled all positions. In 2018, 12 school councils had all positions filled.
- There were five contested elections where a poll was held. A sixth election by poll was cancelled after two candidates withdrew. The council had all positions elected by acclamation. In 2018 there were 6 contested elections.
- A total of 282 voters voted at the polls. COVID-19 due diligence measures included larger spaces, PPE worn by election workers with masks and sanitizer available to electors, and additional election worker to control traffic and keep surfaces sanitized, and additional signage.
- A further 41 voters voted by mail-in ballot. An adaptation of the *Education Act* authorized electors to vote by mail-in ballot for any reason. In total, there were 323 electors (at poll and by mail-in ballot) who voted at the five polls. In 2018, at the six contested elections, there were a total of 329 electors who voted.
- All 26 councils have a least two members. This is the minimum council membership needed to conduct business. In 2018, there were 7 school councils with less than two members. This included one council with no candidates.
- One candidate was nominated as a member of a school council for two school attendance areas. The member was elected by acclamation for both school councils.
- Vacancies may be filled by Ministerial appointment based on school council recommendations.

The full list of members of a school council is attached. It includes the members elected at the five polls as well as the members elected by acclamation on Sept. 24, 2020.

**Quote: Maxwell Harvey, Chief Electoral Officer:** The overall excellent results reflected engaged community leaders who put their names forward to become involved in the education of youth. This 2020 election for members of a school council produced more candidates, more members, and completely filled more school councils than in the previous two school elections since 2016. There were also new process initiatives, greater outreach, and close collaboration between the various education stakeholders to make voting convenient, safe, and inclusive. Congratulations to all candidates and all the best to the new school councils in delivering on their important mandate.

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Elections Yukon is an independent non-partisan office of the Legislative Assembly responsible for the administration of territorial, school council and school board elections.



**GENERAL ELECTION SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**MEMBERS OF A SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**RESULTS – ELECTED BY POLL**

Five of the 26 school councils were elected by polls held at their respective schools on October 5, 2020 where the number of candidates exceeded the number of positions. The elected members are indicated below.

School	# of Positions	# of Candidates	Elected Members
Del Van Gorder School Faro	5	7	Sarah Piercey Rose Stubbs Wendy Michell Sarah Djuretic Tina Freake
J.V. Clark School Mayo	3	8	Sarah Paschuk Kerri Ellis Ian Spencer
Selkirk Elementary School Whitehorse	5	9	Laura Davidson Colleen Madore Melanie Davignon Sue Glynn-Morris Ian Parker
Christ the King Elementary School * Whitehorse	5	6	Melissa Yu Schott Paul Murchison Gina Macleod Amy Ryder Carrie Ariss
Holy Family Elementary School * Whitehorse	5	6	Gina Anderson Amy Fry Myriam Lafrance Mary Ellen O'Brien John Williams

\* Indicates a school established on the basis of religion



**GENERAL ELECTION SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**MEMBERS OF A SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**RESULTS - ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION**

Twenty-one of the 26 school councils were elected by acclamation after the close of nominations where the number of candidates did not exceed the number of positions. The elected members are indicated below.

School	# Positions	# Nominations	Elected Members
F.H. Collins Secondary School	7	7	Russell Knutson Heather Milford Bryna Cable Kelly Milner Karen Clyde Mike Etches Sandra Henderson
Tantalus School	3	2	Sandra Combs Justin Lachance
St. Elias Community School	3	3	Cassandra Wheeler Amy McKinnon Marsha Sparvier
Whitehorse Elementary School	7	5	Thane Phillips Carly Carruthers Sarah Gallina Vanessa Thorson Laura Lang
Vanier Catholic Secondary School *	5	5	Truska Gorrell Ian Davis Cynthia Lyslo Sue Ross Maureen Johnstone
Ghùch Tlâ Community School	5	4	Sheena Johns Courtney Sewell-Grant Ruby E. Simons Heike Graf
Watson Lake Schools	7	2	Richard Durocher Tara McIntyre

Grey Mountain Primary School	5	3	Joanne Heyes Tim Kucharuk Erin Johnston
Khàtinaxh Community School	3	3	Jennifer Clark Jari Smarch Ashley Hassard
Chief Zzeh Gittlit School	5	3	David Frost Stanley Njootli JR Kathy Charlie
Robert Service School	6	6	Suzanne Crocker Tanja Westland Andria Oppen Lisa Favron Brent McDonald Rhea Lewthwaite
Ross River School	5	5	Jason Chapman Dorothy Smith Verna Nukon Orla David Petersen Dylan Loblaw
Takhini Elementary School	5	3	Jeff Moore Logan Freese Craig Charlton
Eliza Van Bibber School	3	3	Lori Sims Lauren McGinty MacKenzie Boyden
Nelnah Bessie John School	3	2	Quanah VanderMeer Gabrielle Plamondon
Porter Creek Secondary School	7	7	Misty Ticiniski Jennifer Kozmen Deanna McLeod Sheri Graham Dale Cheeseman Angela Drainville Andrew Robulack

Jack Hulland Elementary School	7	6	Misty Ticiniski Sheri Graham Rachel Hrebien Lea Pigage Kirsten Pattimore Jesse Bouchard
Golden Horn Elementary School	5	3	Amber Hirsch Kirsten Hogan Emily Woodruffe
Elijah Smith Elementary School	3	3	Jeff Hunston Sean Smith Megan Cromarty
Hidden Valley School	5	5	Jordi Mikeli-Jones Natasha MacDonald Ashley Feasby Shannon Whellan Lindsay Hartland
Kluane Lake School	5	4	Tralee MacDonald Marissa Mills Christabelle Carlick Katharine Ballegooyen

\* Indicates a school established on the basis of religion